

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : Confirmation No.  
Applicant : Christophe Lorthioir et al.  
Filed :  
PCT No. : PCT/FR2003/002250  
IFD : July 16, 2003  
TC/A.U. :  
Examiner :

Docket No. : 05-112  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the initial office action in the above newly filed patent application, please amend said application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected in the attached substitute specification with markings and the clean version.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.